

CLAIMS

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1. Use of a composition comprising either

a) alpha-linolenic acid (ALA, C18:3 n-3) and/or the pharmaceutically acceptable derivatives and/or precursors thereof; or

b) docosahexaenoic acid (DHA, C22:6 n-3) and/or the pharmaceutically acceptable derivatives and/or precursors thereof; or

c) DHA in admixture with eicosapentaenoic acid (EPA, C20:5 n-3) , in a ratio of 1:0.5 to 1:1.7, respectively, and/or the pharmaceutically acceptable derivatives and/or precursors thereof;

either a) or b) or c) being in a concentration not lower than 70% by weight of the total fatty acids weight in the composition, for the preparation of a drug for the prevention and/or treatment of the psychiatric disturbances of the central nervous system (CNS) selected from the group consisting of schizophrenia, manic-depressive syndrome, major depression, and Alzheimer's disease;

with the provisos that:

when the composition comprises b), arachidonic acid is not added thereto; and

when the composition comprises c), it does not comprise 10 to 40% by weight of reducing/antioxidant vitamins or provitamins.

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1. Use of a composition comprising either
- a) alpha-linolenic acid (ALA, C18:3 n-3) and/or the pharmaceutically acceptable derivatives and/or precursors thereof; or
 - 5 b) docosahexaenoic acid (DHA, C22:6 n-3) and/or the pharmaceutically acceptable derivatives and/or precursors thereof; or
 - c) DHA in admixture with eicosapentaenoic acid (EPA, C20:5 n-3), in a ratio of 1:0.5 to 1:1.7, respectively, and/or the pharmaceutically acceptable derivatives and/or precursors thereof;
 - 10 either a) or b) or c) being in a concentration not lower than 70% by weight of the total fatty acids weight in the composition, for the preparation of a drug for the prevention and/or treatment of the disturbances of the central nervous system (CNS);
- ~~2. Use according to claim 1, wherein the disturbances of CNS are neurological and/or psychiatric disturbances.~~
3. Use according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the disturbances of CNS are epilepsy, schizophrenia, manic-depressive syndrome, major depression, and Alzheimer's disease.
4. Use according to the previous claim, wherein epilepsy shows partial and/or generalized seizures.
- ~~5. Use according to claim 3 or 4, wherein epilepsy shows simple and/or complex seizures.~~
- 20 ~~6.~~ ¹ Use according to claim ~~3~~, wherein schizophrenia shows negative and/or positive symptoms.
- ~~3.~~ ^{1 or 2} Use according to claim ~~3 or 4~~, wherein schizophrenia is paranoid, catatonic, disorganised or undifferentiated schizophrenia.
- ~~4.~~ ^{any of the previous claims,} Use according to ~~claim 3~~, wherein the manic-depressive syndrome and major depression
- 25 include disorders of mood, behaviour and autonomic functions correlated to activity, sleep and appetite.
- ~~5.~~ ¹ Use according to claim ~~3~~, wherein the Alzheimer's disease includes the various related forms of dementia.
- ~~6.~~ ¹ Use according to any of the previous claims, wherein the ratio of DHA to EPA in c) is
- 30 of 1:0.9 to 1:1.5.
- ~~7.~~ ¹ Use according to any of the previous claims, wherein the concentration of either a) or b) or c) is of 75% to 95% by weight of the total fatty acids weight in the composition.
- ~~8.~~ ¹ Use according to any of the previous claims, wherein the concentration of either a) or b) or c) is of 80% to 90% by weight of the total fatty acids weight in the composition.
- 35 ~~9.~~ ¹ Use according to any of the previous claims, wherein the concentration of either a) or b)

- or c) is of 85% by weight of the total fatty acids weight in the composition.
10. ~~14.~~ Use according to any of the previous claims, wherein the composition comprises at least another n-3 and/or n-6 polyunsaturated and/or monounsaturated and/or saturated fatty acid.
11. ~~15.~~ Use according to the previous claim, wherein the composition comprises at least two other n-3 and/or n-6 polyunsaturated and/or monounsaturated and/or saturated fatty acids, in any ratio among themselves.
12. ~~16.~~ Use according to claim ~~14 or 15~~^{10 or 11}, wherein the other n-3 and/or n-6 polyunsaturated and/or monounsaturated and/or saturated fatty acids are in a concentration of lower or equal to 30%.
10. ~~13.~~ ~~17.~~ Use according to any of the previous claims, wherein the derivatives of ALA, DHA and EPA are selected from the group consisting of their C₁-C₃ alkyl esters, glyceride mono-, di-, tri-esters, salts with pharmaceutically acceptable bases, whereas the precursors of ALA, DHA and EPA are the compounds able to lead to them through *in vivo* transformations.
14. ~~18.~~ Use according to any of the previous claims, wherein the drug comprises essentially DHA ethyl ester and EPA ethyl ester.
15. ~~19.~~ Use according to any of the previous claims, wherein the drug is administered by oral route.
16. ~~20.~~ Use according to any of the previous claims, wherein the drug is in the form of soft gelatine capsules.
20. ~~17.~~ ~~21.~~ Use according to any of the previous claims, wherein the drug is administered at the dose of 0.1-5 g/day.
18. ~~22.~~ Use according to any of the previous claims, wherein the drug is administered at the dose of 0.3-3 g/day.
19. ~~23.~~ Use according to any of the previous claims, wherein the drug is administered at the dose of 1-2 g/day.
25. ~~20.~~ ~~24.~~ Use according to any of the previous claims, wherein the drug is administered separately, as a coadj^tutant or an auxiliary drug, from at least another drug effective for the prevention and/or treatment of the disturbances of CNS.
21. ~~25.~~ Use according to any of the previous claims, wherein the drug comprises at least another drug effective for the prevention and/or treatment of the disturbances of CNS.
30. ~~26. A method for prevention and/or treatment of CNS disturbances in a mammal in need thereof comprising administering to the mammal a therapeutically effective dose of a drug as defined in any of the previous claims.~~
27. A method according to the previous claim, wherein the therapeutically effective dose ranges from about 2 to 60 mg/kg of the mammal body weight per day.
35. ~~27. A method according to the previous claim, wherein the therapeutically effective dose ranges from about 2 to 60 mg/kg of the mammal body weight per day.~~

~~28. A method according to claim 26 or 27, wherein the CNS disturbances are epilepsy, schizophrenia, manic-depressive syndrome, major depression and Alzheimer's disease.~~